

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: BEHRENS 9 PCT  
INT'L. APPLN. NO.: PCT/DE00/01386 FILED: 28 APRIL 2000  
PRIORITY NO.: 199 34 203.2 FILED: 21 JULY 1999  
FOR: STRIPLIKE BODY OF VEGETATION FOR COVERING ROOFS WITH  
THIN LAYERS OF VEGETATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ATTN: BOX PCT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Above line 1, please insert the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of GERMANY  
Application No. 199 34 203.2 filed on 21 JULY 1999. Applicants  
also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/DE00/01386 filed  
on 28 APRIL 2000. The international application under PCT  
article 21(2) was not published in English.--

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add an Abstract of the Disclosure on its own separate  
page attached hereto.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 3 - 15 and insert new claims 16 - 28 as follows:

16. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the body of vegetation (10) is provided with 50 to 1,500 holes per square metre, whereby the holes (18; 20) in each case feature a diameter of 2 to 20 mm.

17. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the number of holes (18; 20) is selected as a function of the roof height.

18. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is a looped mat (16).

19. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is a fibre mat, in particular a fibre mat made of coconut fibres.

20. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a dense needle non-woven.

21. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a polyester non-woven.

22. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a polypropylene non-woven.

23. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a dense cotton non-woven (30).

24. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the underlay (14) is a rock wool mat.

25. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that arranged between the structural matting (12) and the underlay (14) is reinforcing (28) to accommodate tensile forces.

26. The striplike body of vegetation according to Claim 1, characterised in that the structural matting (12) is arranged on the underlay (14) in such a way that a first side edge area of the structural matting (12) projects over a first side edge of the underlay (14), that a second side edge area (22) of the underlay (14) located opposite projects beneath a second side edge (24) of the structural matting (12), so that the structural matting (12) and underlay (14) of adjacent bodies of vegetation overlap into one another in each case, and that the overlapping areas are combined with one another in the cultivated state of the bodies of vegetation as a consequence of the inter-rooting activity of the plants (34).

27. A process for the manufacture of a striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with Claim 1, in which, in a first step, the body of vegetation (10) is rolled out flat on a film secure against root penetration, in a second step the body of vegetation (10) is filled with substrate (32) and germinative plant material (34) and cared for horticulturally, in a third step the holes (18; 20) are applied by machine through the body of vegetation

(10) into the underlay (14), and in a fourth step the body of vegetation (10) is rolled up and conveyed to the roof.

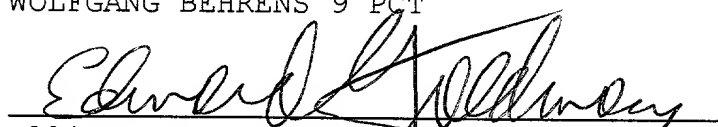
28. The process for the manufacture of a striplike body of vegetation (10) used to cover roofs with thin layers of vegetation in accordance with Claim 1, in which, in a first step, the body of vegetation (10), of which the underlay (14) has already been provided with holes (18;20), is rolled out flat on a film secure against root penetration, in a second step the body of vegetation (10) is filled with substrate (32) and germinative plant material (34) and cared for horticulturally, and in a third step the body of vegetation (10) is rolled up and conveyed to the roof.

#### REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, an Abstract of the Disclosure on its own separate page has been added. In addition, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1. Claims 3 to 15 have been canceled, and new claims 16 to 28 have been added, in which the multiple dependency has been removed. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
WOLFGANG BEHRENS 9 PCT

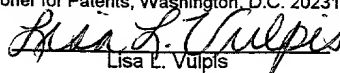
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Lisa L. Vulpis